

REASONS

HUMBLY OFFER'D

To This Honourable House, for Laying a TAX on the Woollen-Manufacture, according to the Former Proposals of WILLIAM WAY, and Others.

THE Four last Sessions of Parliament, we laid before this Honourable House, the vast Conveniences of Laying an Imposition on the Woollen-Manufacture; by which a great Sum of Money might easily be Levied, to defray the Expence of the War, in a great Measure, with little or no Prejudice to any Man whatsoever: As,

- I. THAT, by a modest Computation, Three Millions might be Raised by this TAX, for the First Year; and the Succeeding Years will Annually produce Two Millions; and this so well Proportion'd, that Those who receive the greatest Benefit, from the Happy Constitution of this Government, may Contribute to it, according to their Ability, from the First Rank of Quality, to the Peasant; and consequently, that TAX must be Best, which is the least Injurious to the People that Pay it.
- II. THIS Imposition will Require but Few Officers to Collect it; and therefore, the Charge but small to the KING, according to the Method We have Contriv'd; and which We are ready to Produce, for the Consideration of This Honourable House.
- III. THAT none of the Commodities are Taxed, but what are us'd in England; and Those to Pay it, that really use Them: For the Maker Pays it to the KING, the Merchant and Draper Pay him again so much Advance; and, for what They Export, the Custom-House Repays them: And, for what is Retail'd, the Buyer, or Those that use it, Repays them: And no Man Pays for more, than what he Uses.

More-over, The Benefits to Those that pay it, will be, That all Goods will be carefully Examin'd alike; and that no Man shall be able to vend a Bad Commodity, either Stretch'd or Ill-wrought: And, hereby, we may Recover our lost Reputation in Foreign Parts, to the great Benefit of our Trade, and the Nation in general.

BY this Method, there will be a much Greater Consumption of WOOL, and a considerable Advance thereof, in our Markets at Home; and will also hinder the Transportation of WOOL to Foreign Parts.

Furthermore, If an Imposition of Three Pence per Pound, were Laid on Osborne-Earth, and all sorts of Fencing, or Fullers-Earth, that is Exported, it would Raise a vast Sum to the KING, and mightily Advance our Trade at Home: there being Thousands of Tuns Yearly Transported to other Nations, by reason they cannot Wash, Mill, and Scower their Cloth, without it.

To Conclude, By the Method We are ready to Lay before This Honourable House, We humbly Conceive, the Charge will be very Inconsiderable to the KING, an Ease to the People, and a vast Benefit to the Nation in General: And We are ready to give Further Reasons, and Answer all Objections whatsoever, to This PROPOSAL.